

*Citation for published version:*

Patel, M 2008, 'The eCrystals Federation: Repository Curation Service Environments (RECURSE) Workshop' Paper presented at Repository Curation Service Environments (RECURSE) Workshop, IDCC 2008, Edinburgh, UK United Kingdom, 1/12/08 - 3/12/08, .

*Publication date:*  
2008

*Document Version*  
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication](#)

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# The eCrystals Federation

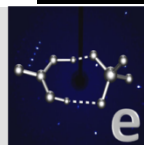
**Repository Curation Service Environments (RECURSE) Workshop  
National e-Science Centre, Edinburgh**

**4th International Digital Curation Conference  
"Radical Sharing: Transforming Science?"  
1-3rd December 2008  
Edinburgh, Scotland**

**Manjula Patel  
UKOLN, University of Bath, UK**



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**eCrystals Federation**

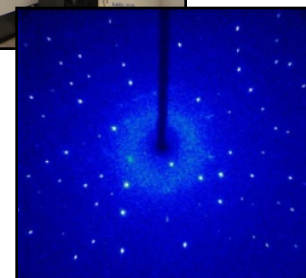
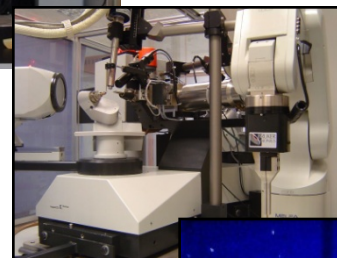
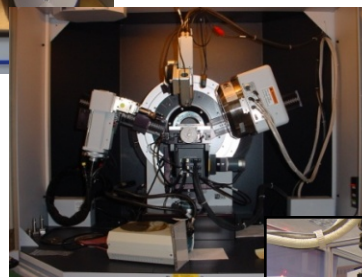
RECURSE Workshop, 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2008, IDCC 2008, Edinburgh

# Context

- The data deluge
  - Advances in instrumentation, data storage technologies, computational power and improvements in algorithms
  - Development of grid and cyber infrastructures
- Actual nature of science is changing
  - Mining and analysis of large datasets (e.g. Protein Data Bank, GenBank)
  - Open Science (e.g. Open Notebook Science; myExperiment)
- High quality data are the raw materials of contemporary e-science
  - Verification; Validation; Replication
  - Predictive science
  - Innovative scientific endeavour
- S. Carlson, *Lost in a Sea of Science Data*, The Chronicle of Higher Education, June 2006
  - “To vet experiments, correct errors, or find new breakthroughs, scientists desperately need better ways to store and retrieve research data”
  - “Data from Big Science is ... easier to handle, understand and archive. Small Science is horribly heterogeneous and far more vast. In time Small Science will generate 2-3 times more data than Big Science.”

# Crystallography –The Science

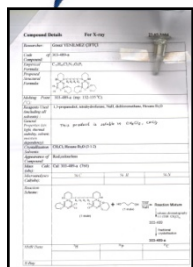
- Sub-discipline of chemistry
- Concerned with determining the structure of a molecule and its 3D orientation with respect to other molecules in a crystal
- Analysis of diffraction patterns obtained from X-ray scattering experiments
- Focus on laboratory based experimental technique of chemical crystallography undertaken at the EPSRC National Crystallography Service (NCS), UK



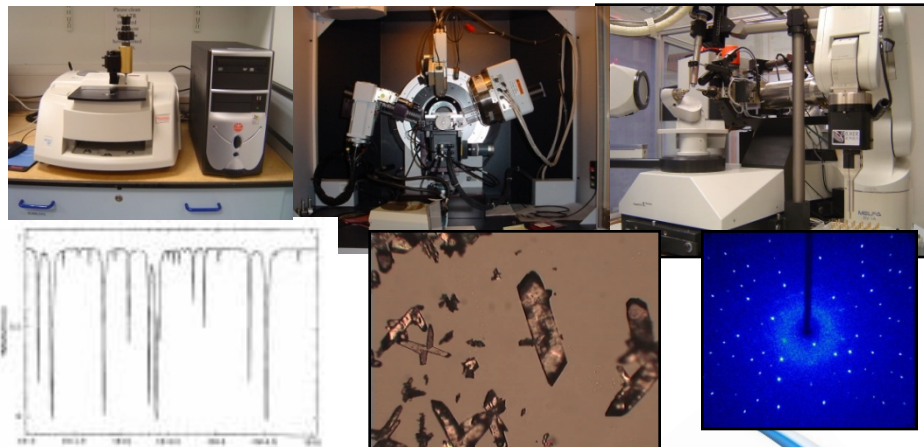
Images from Simon Coles (NCS), 2006

# Data Generation

## Synthesis



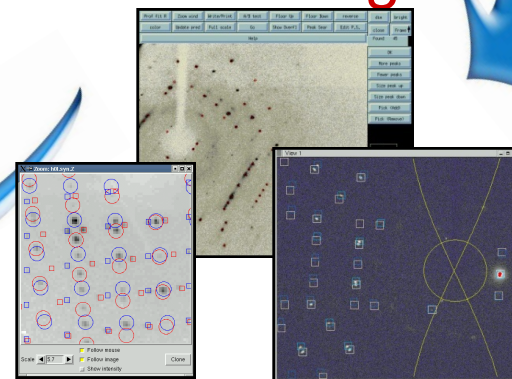
## Data Collection



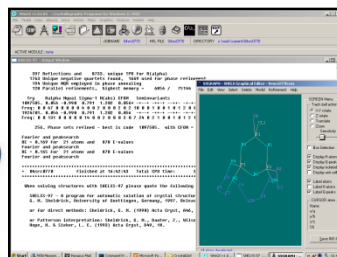
## Publication



## Data Processing



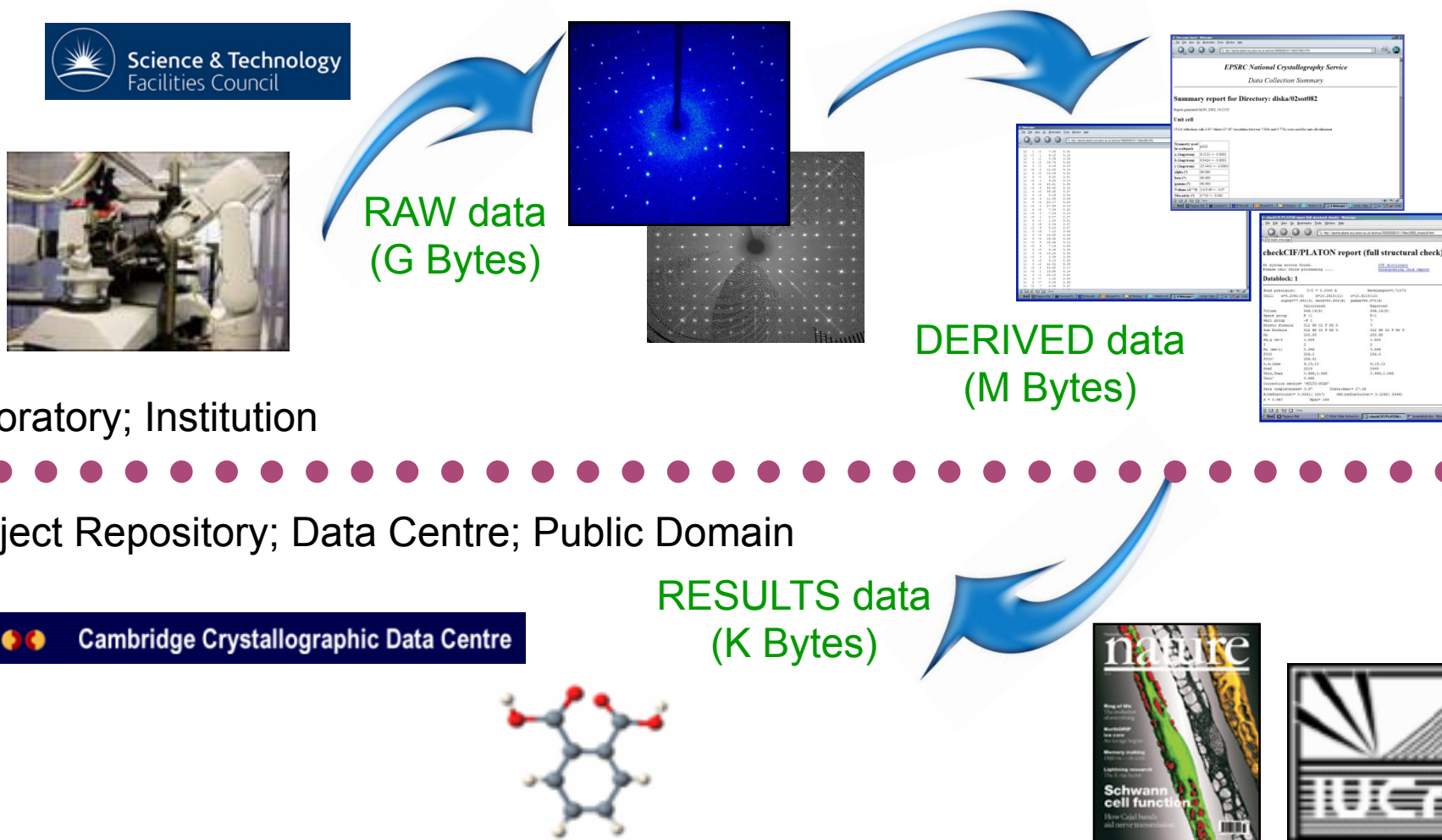
## Data Workup



Adapted from Simon Coles (NCS), 2007



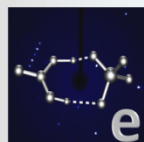
# Data Volumes



Adapted from Simon Coles (NCS), 2007

# Community & Current Practice (1)

- Relatively organised approach to data (crystallography data are highly structured)
- Convention is to share derived or reduced data, access to raw data is rare
- Crystallography Information File (CIF) is a de facto exchange standard
  - Maintained by International Union of Crystallography (IUCr)
- Heterogeneity in instrumentation and associated software
- Established system for publishing crystallographic data in UK (Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre-CCDC)
- Other major databanks
  - Germany (inorganic molecule database)
  - Canada (metals database)
  - US (Protein Data Bank -PDB)



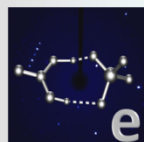
# Community & Current Practice (2)

- Publishing datasets
  - Alongside journal articles through publisher mandates
  - Researchers often wish to retain exclusive use of their data
  - Lack of career rewards with respect to data creation and publishing
- Smaller projects at greatest risk
  - Sometimes CIF retained but raw data discarded
  - Data often stored on DVDs or laptops
  - Distributed, local storage -shortage of local curation expertise
  - Quality of metadata for datasets is variable
- Open access
  - eCrystals Federation Project
  - CrystalEye
  - ReciprocalNet (US, Australia, UK)
  - Crystallography Open Database (COD)
  - Chemistry Central (open access publisher)

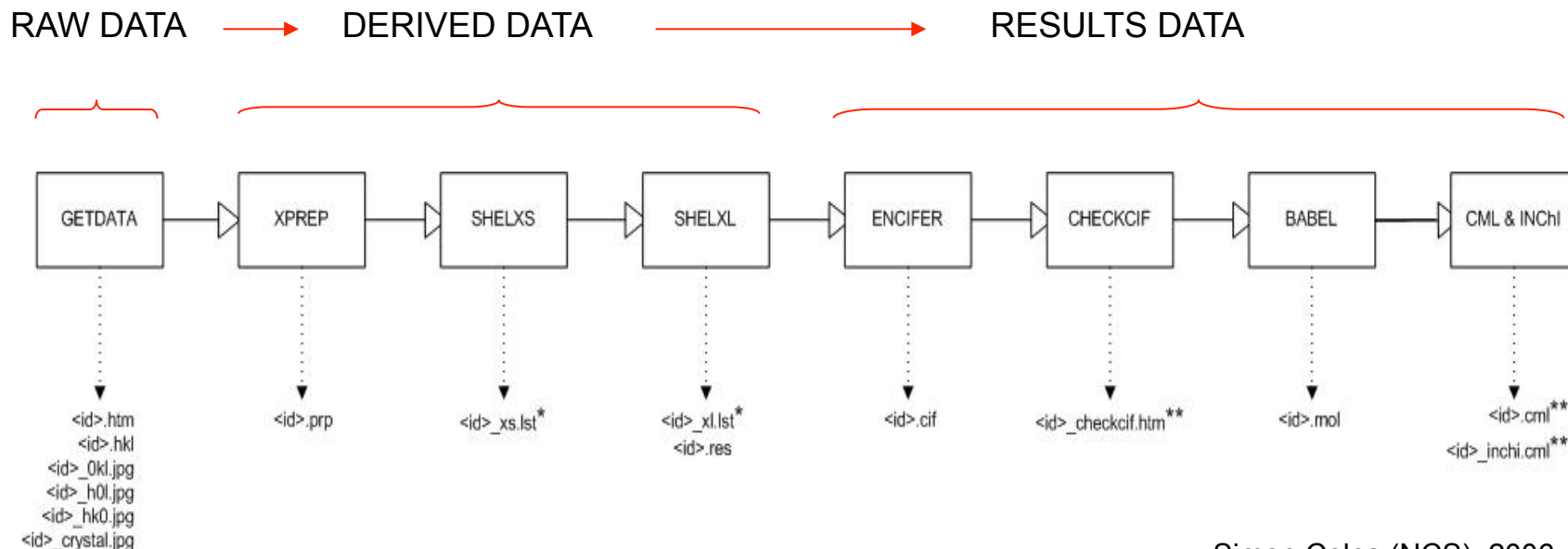


# Building the eCrystals Repository

- Phenomenal growth in amount of data generated from experiments
  - 40 years ago a PhD student would determine 2-3 structures for a thesis; this can now be easily achieved in a single day
- Only a small proportion is widely and easily accessible
  - Estimated that < 50% of crystal structures are published [Allen 2004]
  - Current data publication process is a bottleneck
- eBank-UK Project
  - JISC funded; three phases Sept. 2003-June 2007
  - UKOLN (lead), University of Southampton, University of Manchester
- eCrystals data repository
  - Open access and rapid dissemination of derived and results data from crystallography experiments
  - Repository platform: ePrints.org software V3
  - Supported by learned society (IUCr) and subject repository (CCDC)
- Linking research data to publications and scholarly communication
- Metadata harvesting and aggregation (OAI-PMH)



# EPSRC NCS Crystal Structure Determination Workflow



Simon Coles (NCS), 2006

- Initialisation: mount new sample
- Collection: collect data
- Processing: process and correct images
- Solution: solve structures

- Refinement: refine structure
- CIF: produce Crystallographic Information File
- Validation: chemical & crystallographic checks
- Report: generate Crystal Structure Report
- CML, INChI

# eCrystals Data Repository: Example Crystal Structure Report

University of Southampton  
Crystal Structure Report Archive

Home  
About  
Browse  
User Area  
Help

## 2,2-trimethylenedioxy-4,4,6,6-tetrachlorocyclotriphosphazene

**Sample Originator:** D.B. Davies<sup>a</sup>, R.A. Shaw<sup>a</sup>, A. Kilic<sup>b</sup>, M. Odlyha<sup>a</sup> and A. Uslu<sup>b</sup>.

**Data Collection:** S.J. Coles<sup>c</sup>, L.S. Huth<sup>c</sup> and M.E. Light<sup>c</sup>.

**Structure Determination:** S.J. Coles<sup>c</sup>, J.S. Rutherford and M.B. Hursthouse.

Birkbeck College<sup>a</sup>  
Gebze Institute of Technology<sup>b</sup>  
University of Southampton<sup>c</sup>

C3H6Cl4N3O2P3

InChI=1/C3H12Cl4N3O2P3/c4-13(5)8-14(6,7)10-15(9-13)11-2-1-3-12-15/h8-10,13-15H,1-3H2

**Compound Class:** Inorganic  
**Keywords:** cyclophosphazene, phase transition, variable temperature  
**Creation Date:** 28 March 2007  
**Deposited By:** Dr Simon J Coles  
**Deposited On:** 28 March 2007

**Available Files**

Final Result  
[2005sjc0007.cif](#) 11k  
[2005sjc0007.cml](#) 4k

Validation  
[2005sjc0007\\_checkcif.htm](#) 9k

Data collection parameters



Data collection parameters [2005sjc0007\\_checkcif.htm](#) 9k

Chemical formula	C3 H6 Cl4 N3 O2 P3
Crystallisation Solvent	
Crystal morphology	Rod
Crystal system	Orthorhombic
Space group symbol	Pna2(1)
Cell length a	13.4804(14)
Cell length b	10.6442(9)
Cell length c	8.8479(7)
Cell angle alpha	90.00
Cell angle beta	90.00
Cell angle gamma	90.00
Data collection temperature	274(2)

Refinement [2005sjc0007.res](#) 5k  
[2005sjc0007\\_xl.lst](#) 29k

Solution [2005sjc0007.prp](#) 5k  
[2005sjc0007\\_xs.lst](#) 44k

Processing [2005sjc0007.hkl](#) 532k  
[2005sjc0007.htm](#) 11k  
[2005sjc0007\\_0kl.jpg](#) 91k  
[2005sjc0007\\_h0l.jpg](#) 87k  
[2005sjc0007\\_hk0.jpg](#) 79k

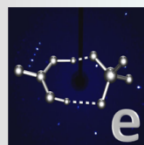
Refinement results

Solution figure of merit	0.0569
R Factor (Obs)	0.0334
R Factor (All)	0.0380
Weighted R Factor (Obs)	0.0871
Weighted R Factor (All)	0.0905

Data Collection [2005sjc0007\\_crystal.jpg](#) 17k

Other Files [2005sjc0007.doc](#) 186k  
[2005sjc0007.fcf](#) 138k

Citation: D.B. Davies, L.S. Huth, M.B. Hursthouse, M. Odlyha, S.J. Coles, R.A. Shaw, J.S. Rutherford, A. Kilic, M.E. Light, A. Uslu (2007), Southampton, UK, University of Southampton, Crystal Structure Report Archive. (doi:)



# Linking Data to Publications

**eBank UK Demo**

## Crystal Structure Data Reports

[Crystal Structure Report of 2-\(N-Ferrocenylmethylcarbamoyl\)-5-\(N-phenylcarbamoyl\)-3,4-diphenylpyrrole](#)

**Creator(s):** Hursthouse, Michael B., Light, Mark E., Coles, Simon J., Horton, Peter N., Gale, Phil A., Denuault, G., Wanner, C. N.  
**Date released:** 23/05/2004  
**Empirical Formula:** C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>29</sub>FeN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>  
**IUPAC name:** 2-(N-Ferrocenylmethylcarbamoyl)-5-(N-phenylcarbamoyl)-3,4-diphenylpyrrole  
**CCDC code:** XU2SIU  
**Compound Class:** Organic  
**General keywords:** Supramolecular Chemistry  
**Related article:** [7A URL citation?](#)

**Available Datafiles**

CIF file  
 processing Dataset  
 refinement Dataset  
 solution Dataset

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[Crystal Structure Report of 2-\(N-Ferrocenylcarbamoyl\)-5-\(methoxycarbonyl\)-3,4-diphenylpyrrole](#)

**Creator(s):** Hursthouse, Michael B., Coles, Simon J., Light, Mark E., Horton, Peter N., Gale, Phil A., Denuault, G., Wanner, C. N.  
**Date released:** 23/05/2004  
**Empirical Formula:** C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>24</sub>FeN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
**IUPAC name:** 2-(N-Ferrocenylcarbamoyl)-5-(methoxycarbonyl)-3,4-diphenylpyrrole  
**CCDC code:** XU2SOA  
**Compound Class:** Organometallic  
**General keywords:** Supramolecular Chemistry  
**Related article:** [7A URL citation?](#)

**Available Datafiles**

CIF file  
 processing Dataset  
 refinement Dataset  
 solution Dataset

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## Publications

A supramolecular assembly, aquatris(pentafluorophenyl)borane as its mixed dimethyl sulfone and water solvate, (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>B(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O.

The title compound, C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>15</sub>O<sub>4</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, obtained by crystallization of a product formed from a reaction mixture containing B(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> and Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> (and H<sub>2</sub>O) in hexane, was characterized in the solid state as a supramolecular assembly containing water adducts of tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane, (H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>3</sub>B(CF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, linked together by a network of hydrogen bonds involving one additional H<sub>2</sub>O and one additional Me<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>2</sub> molecule per adduct molecule.

**Creator(s):** Coles, Simon J., Hursthouse, Michael B., Beckett, Michael A., Dutton, Michael  
 Acta Crystallogr E Struct Rep Online Vol 59 Issue Pt 9 pp. o1354 - o1356  
**DOI:**  
**Download from:** <http://scripts.iucr.org/cgi-bin/getarticleid?asns=1600-5368&volume=58&page=1354&details=yes>

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Structural investigations of phosphorus-nitrogen compounds. 5. Relationships between molecular parameters of 2,2-diphenyl-4,6-cis-oxetetrakis(ethyleneoxy)-4,6-R<sub>2</sub>-cyclotriphosphazatrienes (R = Cl, OCH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, OPh, OMe, NHPh, NHBut) and substituent basicity constants

The syntheses and crystal structures of six new cis-ansa derivatives N3P3Ph2[O(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>4</sub>]R<sub>2</sub> (R = Cl, OCH<sub>2</sub>CF<sub>3</sub>, OPh, OMe, NHPh, NHBut) are reported and the observed relationship between molecular parameters of the N3P3 ring and substituent basicity constants is discussed.

**Creator(s):** Besli, S., Coles, S. J., Hursthouse, M. B., Kilic, A., Mayer, T. A., Shaw, R. A.  
 Acta Crystallogr B Vol 58 Pt 6 pp. 1067 - 1073  
**DOI:** 10.1107/S0108769102018608  
**Download from:** <http://scripts.iucr.org/cgi-bin/getarticleid?asns=108-7681&volume=58&page=1067&details=yes>

**Related dataset:** <http://ecrystals.chem.soton.ac.uk/archive/00000062/>

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**Salpha-Cholestane**

The title compound, C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>48</sub>, is a steroid derivative composed of a saturated-carbon fused-ring framework with two methyl substituents and an allyl side chain.

**Creator(s):** Coles, S. J., Hursthouse, M. B., Frampton, C. S.  
 Acta Crystallogr E Struct Rep Online Vol 58 Issue Pt 4 pp. o445 - o446  
**DOI:** 10.1107/S1600536802004786  
**Download from:** <http://scripts.iucr.org/cgi-bin/getarticleid?asns=1600-5368&volume=58&page=445&details=yes>

**Related dataset:** <http://ecrystals.chem.soton.ac.uk/archive/00000061/>

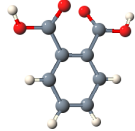
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**Ethyl (2S)-2-[(2R',2R',5S')-2',5'-dimethyl-5'-oxopentylidene-[2,2']biphenyl-5-yl]-2'-hydroxyethanoate**

The framework of K<sub>2</sub>Zn(H<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O contains acid diphosphate-metalate layers linked by KO interactions and weak hydrogen bonds. Zn<sub>2</sub>+ cations are coordinated octahedrally by O atoms from two bidentate (H<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>7</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-anions and two water molecules.

**Benzene 1,2dicarboxylic acid**

Simon J Coles, Michael B Hursthouse, Claire L Taylor and Peter N Horton  
 University of Southampton  
 C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>



**ICHI Code:** INChI=1.12Beta/C8H6O4/c9-7(10)5-3-1-2-4/6(5)(8(11)12n1-4f(10,10)(H,11,12)(google for ichi)  
**Compound Class:** Organic  
**Keywords:** Phthalic acid  
**Creation Date:** 15 February 2005  
**Deposited By:** Dr Simon J Coles  
**Deposited On:** 21 February 2005

**Data collection parameters**

Chemical formula	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>4</sub>
Crystallisation Solvent	
Crystal morphology	Prism
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group symbol	C2/c
Cell length a	5.0016(10)
Cell length b	14.214(3)
Cell length c	9.5196(19)
Cell angle alpha	90.00
Cell angle beta	94.33(3)
Cell angle gamma	90.00
Data collection temperature	120(2)

**Available Files**

**Final Result**

05mbh1006.cml	3k
05mbh1006/05mbh1006.cif	9k
05mbh1006/05mbh1006_checked.htm	7k
05mbh1006_inchi.cml	1k

**Refinement**

05mbh1006/05mbh1006.res	3k
05mbh1006/05mbh1006_4cif	21k

**research papers**

Acta Crystallographica Section B  
 Structural Science  
 ISSN 0108-7681

## Structural investigations of phosphorus-nitrogen compounds. 6. Relationships between molecular parameters in per-X-substituted bridged spermine derivatives and basicity constants $\Sigma \alpha R$ of substituents

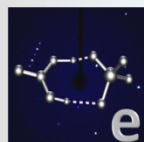
**Simon J Coles,<sup>a,\*</sup> David B. Davies,<sup>b</sup> Michael B. Hursthouse,<sup>a</sup> Adem Kilic,<sup>c</sup> Thomas A. Mayer,<sup>d</sup> Robert A. Shaw<sup>a</sup> and Gönül Yonilmez Güllü<sup>c</sup>**

<sup>a</sup>School of Chemistry, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO17 1B, England, <sup>b</sup>School of Biological and Chemical Sciences, Brunel College University of London, Gordon House, 29 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PP, England, and <sup>d</sup>Department of Chemistry, Çukurova Institute of Technology, Çukurova, Turkey

Correspondence e-mail: s.j.coles@soton.ac.uk

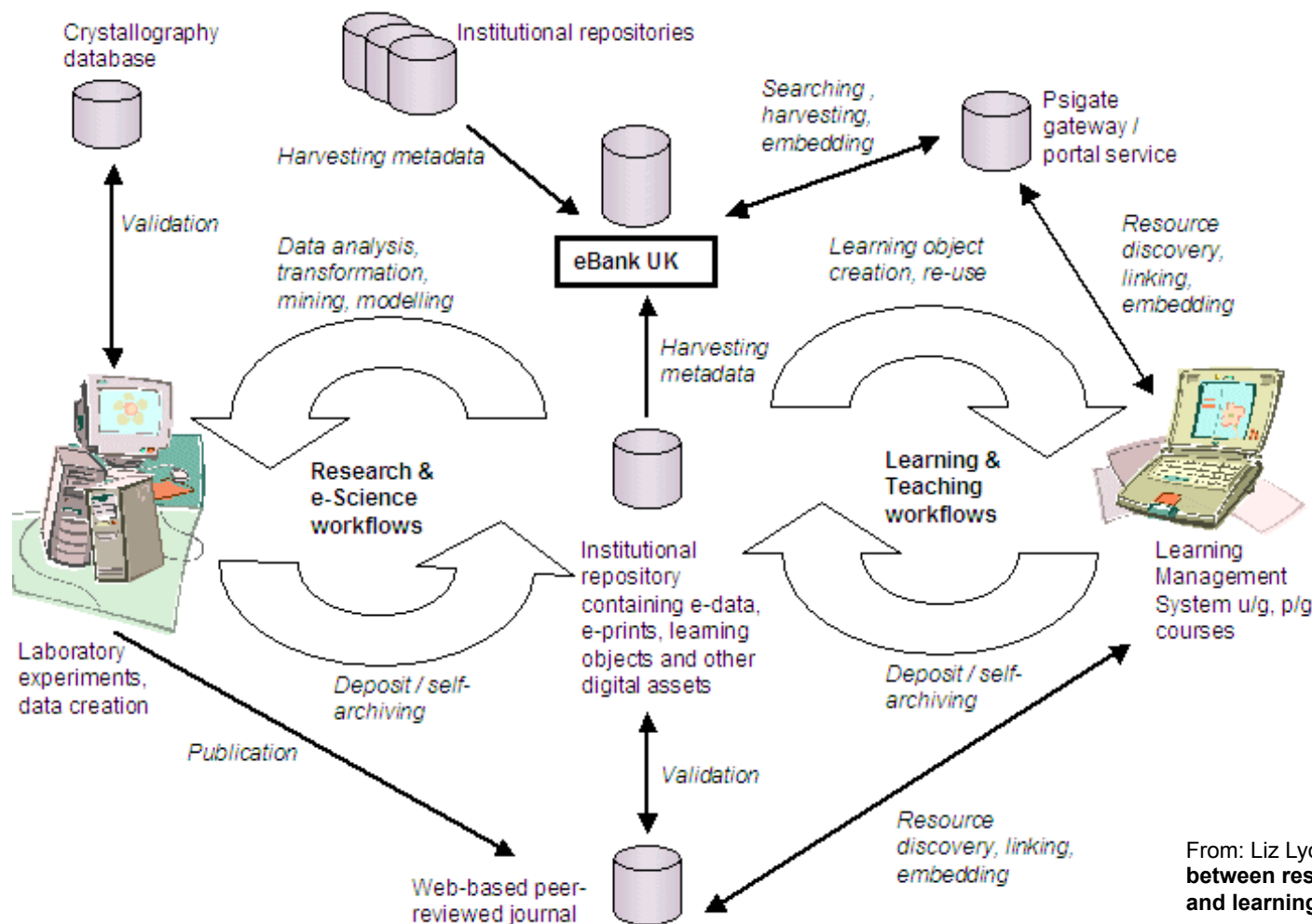
Received 8 July 2004  
 Accepted 13 October 2004

A systematic study is reported of the products of the nucleophilic substitution reactions of the spermine-bridged cyclotriphosphazene, [N<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub>X<sub>6</sub>(NHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>N)(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>)] where X = Cl (2a), to give a number of new structures [(2b)-(2g)] in which X = OPh, [spiro-O(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>O]<sub>3</sub>Ph, NHPh, NC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> and NHBu<sup>t</sup>, respectively. A comparison has been made between the sum of the substituent basicity constants,  $\Sigma \alpha_R$ , obtained in nitrobenzene solution, and ten molecular parameters of the N<sub>3</sub>P<sub>3</sub> ring (the internal bond angles  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ ,  $\delta$  and  $\theta$ , and the P-N bond lengths  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $d$  and  $e$ ) as well as the difference between the bond lengths  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $\Delta(P-N)$ . It is found that the systematic change in molecular parameters of compounds (2a)-(2g) is in line with changes in  $\alpha_R$  values, indicating the similarity in relative electron-releasing capacity of substituents X in the solid state and in solution. It is also found that the effect on molecular parameters of (2a)-(2g) with two X substituents in P<sub>3</sub>X<sub>6</sub> groups is greater than that for one X substituent in P(O)R<sub>3</sub> groups in an analogous series of compounds observed previously [Besli et al. (2002), *Acta Cryst.* B58, 1067-1073].





# The Scholarly Knowledge Lifecycle



Both research and learning are cyclical processes

- Research outputs feed into and contribute to knowledge
- Research outputs are based on continuous use and reuse of data i.e. derivative in nature

From: Liz Lyon, **eBank UK: Building the links between research data, scholarly communication and learning**. ARIADNE, July 2003  
<http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue36/lyon/intro.html>

# Resource Discovery & Reuse

- Simple Dublin Core
  - Crystal structure
  - Title (Systematic IUPAC Name)
  - Authors
  - Affiliation
  - Creation Date
- Qualified Dublin Core (for additional chemical metadata)
  - Empirical formula
  - International Chemical Identifier (InChI)
  - Compound Class and Keywords
- Application Profile: <http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/projects/ebank-uk/schemas/>
- DOI links: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1594/ecrystals.chem.soton.ac.uk/145>
- Rights & Citation: <http://ecrystals.chem.soton.ac.uk/rights.html>



# Scaling Up: Towards a Federation

## Interviews, analysis & synthesis:

IR Policy & Practice, Laboratory Practice & Workflows, Technical Interoperability & Standards, Metadata Schema & Application Profiles, Semantic Interoperability, Data Citation, Identifiers & Linking, Federation Architectures & Third Party Services, Rights & Licensing, Data Quality & Validation, Preservation, Curation & Sustainability

## Selected Issues (& Recommendations):

- Diverse laboratory practice
- Instrument manufacturers have proprietary formats
- Data policy needs to reflect laboratory practice
- Data quality criteria and validation (access to raw data)
- Repository must provide control over timing of public visibility-”prior publication” problem
- No disciplinary preservation model



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## Scaling Up: Towards a Federation of Crystallography Data Repositories

### Document details

Author:	Liz Lyon, Simon Coles, Monica Duke, Traugott Koch
Date:	12th May 2008
Version:	1.0 Final
Document Name:	ebank-phase3-report-final.doc
Notes:	

# Data Curation & Preservation

## eBank-UK Phase 3: "A Study of Curation and Preservation issues in the eCrystals Data Repository and proposed Federation", Sept. 2007

- Development of preservation strategies and policies
- Audit and certification issues (TRAC, DRAMBORA, NESTOR, ISO International repository audit and certification BOF Group)
- OAIS and Representation Information for crystallography data
- eBank-UK Application Profile and preservation metadata
- e-Prints.org repository platform

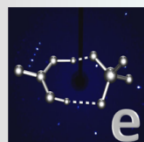
**A study of Curation and Preservation  
Issues in the eCrystals Data Repository  
and Proposed Federation**

**eBank-UK Phase 3: WP4**  
September 2006 - June 2007

Final Version (Revised): 7<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Manjula Patel  
UKOLN, DCC  
University of Bath, UK

Simon Coles  
National Crystallography Centre  
University of Southampton, UK

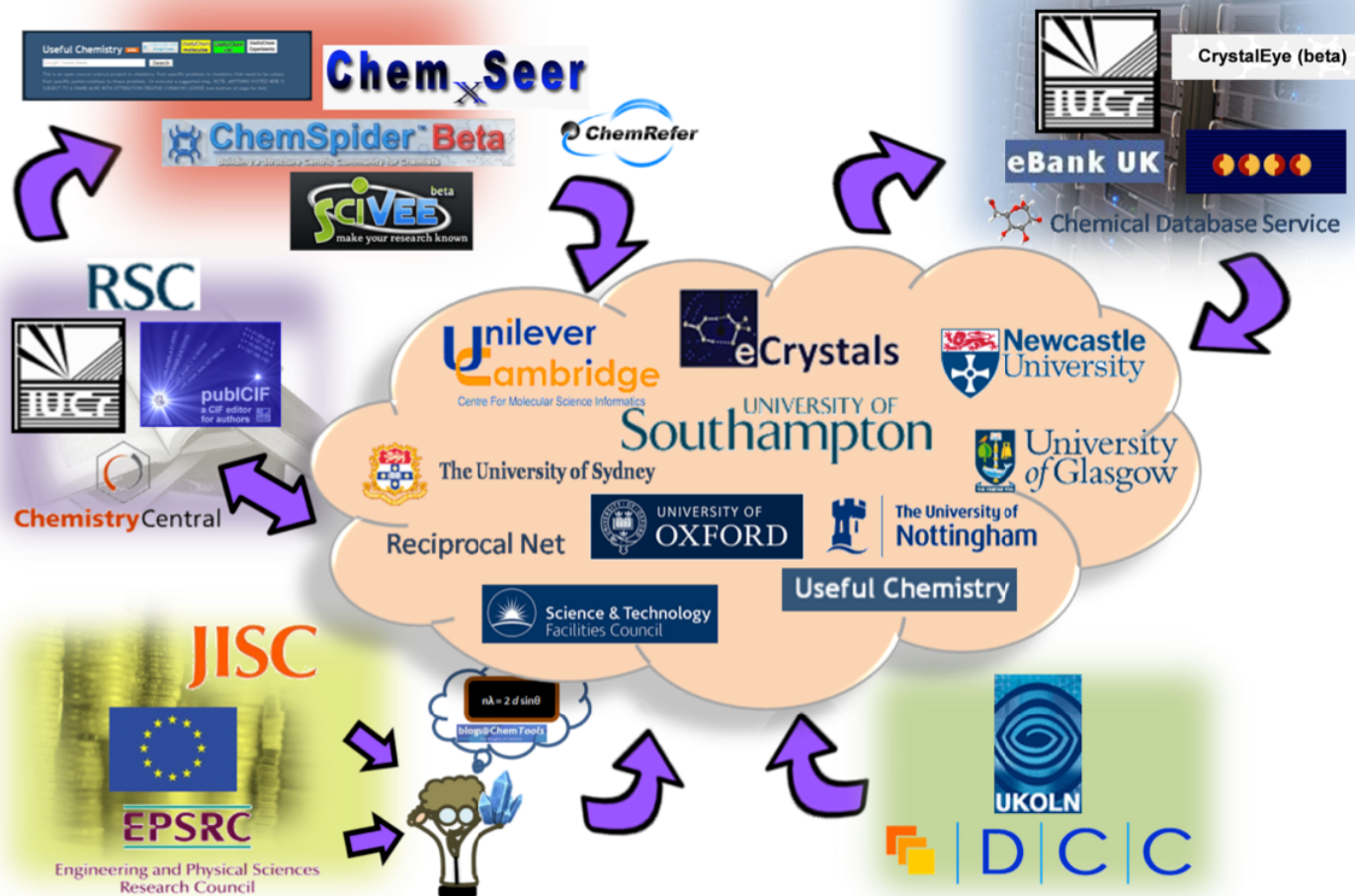


**eCrystals Federation**

# Data Curation & Preservation: Recommendations

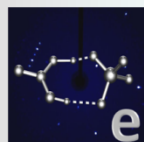
- Develop a preservation and curation strategy and formal policies to indicate levels of service (e.g. deposit, ingest, validation, dissemination)
- Promote community-supported sustainability plan
- Self-assessment using DRAMBORA toolkit
  - Implement regular audits e.g. annually
  - Produce documentary evidence of compliance
- Maintenance and open access of critical file formats and software
  - Crystallography Information File (CIF)
  - Work-up software e.g. XPREP; SHELX{S,L}; ENCIFER; checkCIF, BABEL
  - Advocate export of raw data from instrumentation as IMG CIF
- Capture relevant Representation Information
- Capture preservation metadata (e.g. versioning; provenance)
  - OAIS Preservation Description Information
  - PREMIS Data Dictionary
  - Extend or augment eBank Metadata Application Profile
- Obtain consensus on Metadata Application Profile
- Seek to automate metadata generation, extraction and maintenance

# Building a Federation of Repositories



# eCrystals Federation Project

- eCrystals Federation Project, Nov 2007 – Mar 2009
- Builds on eBank-UK Phase 3 results
- Led by the UK National Crystallography Service (University of Southampton) with core partners at UKOLN (University of Bath), the Digital Curation Centre and the Unilever Centre (University of Cambridge) – currently 14 supporting partners.
- Integrate and embed open data repository approach into current research practice by engaging data centres, librarians, researchers, publishers and third party information providers
- Harmonise Federation metadata application profile
- Investigate aggregation issues arising from harvesting metadata from Federation repositories
- Enable the Federation of institutional repositories to interoperate with international subject archives (IUCr and CCDC) and other third party harvesters
- Develop approaches to preservation and curation of scientific data in open repositories



# Federation Interoperability

- Roll-out in 2 phases led by University of Southampton
  - Universities Sydney, Drexel, Birmingham, Newcastle with eprints.org platform
  - University Cambridge, STFC, ReciprocalNet, ARCHER with other platforms
  - Establish Federation policies, metadata application profile etc.
- Bi-directional links with derived articles in “publisher repositories”, IUCr, RSC, Chemistry Central
- StORe middleware -linking “source” and “output” repositories
- CLADDIER –linking data to publications
- OAI-ORE (Open Archives Initiative – Object Reuse and Exchange)
  - Enable distributed repositories to fully describe and exchange content
  - MicroSoft eChemistry Project

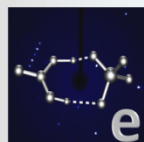


# Some challenges

- Data management plans
- Dealing with diverse laboratory practice and workflows
- Appraisal and selection
- Data provenance, audit, tracking
- Citations and versions –persistent identifiers
- Granularity of citations: dataset or values within a dataset
- Instrumentation –proprietary formats
- Access to raw data files for mining and quality control purposes
- Preservation beyond “data” e.g. workflows, blogs, discourse
- Linking across disciplines and sectors
- Collaborative social networks; also “citizen science”
- Semantic integration –controlled vocabularies, ontology etc.

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# Thanks ...

**...for your attention**

**...to**

Simon Coles: EPSRC National Crystallography Service,  
School of Chemistry, University of Southampton  
Liz Lyon: UKOLN, University of Bath

## Questions?

Manjula Patel  
UKOLN  
University of Bath, UK  
<http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/>